

Message Text

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INFO ALL AMERICAN CONSULATES IN MEXICO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR MX US

SUBJECT: MOYA PALENCIA MEETS WITH YOUNG US POLITICAL LEADERS

SUMMARY: IN HOUR AND HALF MEETING WITH VISITING YOUNG US POLITICAL LEADERS SECRETARY OF GOBERNACION MOYA PALENCIA (LEADING PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANT) DISCUSSED PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION (IN GENERAL TERMS), US-MEXICAN RELATIONS, LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM (SELA), GOM POPULATION PROGRAMS, AND US-MEXICAN YOUTH EXCHANGES. MOYA OBVIOUSLY ENJOYED DISCUSSION, PULLED NO PUNCHES IN ABOUT AS CANDID A PRESENTATION AS COULD BE EXPECTED, SHOWED INTEREST IN VIEWS OF US GROUP AND IN FURTHER CONTACT. HE ALSO EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN CONTINUED GOOD RELATIONS WITH US, BUT BALANCED THIS WITH NATIONALISTIC TONE. ONLY COMMENTS BORDERING ON INTEMPERATE CONCERNED OPPOSITION PARTY OF NATIONAL ACTION (PAN). US GROUP FOUND HIM "TOUGH AS NAILS," "IMPRESSIVE," "OPEN-MINDED." END SUMMARY .

1. ON MARCH 11 TWO EMBOFFS ACCOMPANIED GROUP OF EIGHT FROM AMERICAN COUNCIL OF YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS (ACYPL) TO INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY OF GOBERNACION MARIO MOYA PALENCIA, LEADING PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANT. AFTER AN HOUR OF TAKING QUESTIONS, MOYA PROLONGED SESSION HALF HOUR WITH HIS OWN QUESTIONS AND SOME RESULTING GIVE AND TAKE.

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2. ON SELA, MOYA SAID LITTLE NEW, BUT SHOWED FAMILIARITY

WITH DEVELOPMENTS ("I JUST TALKED TO ALEJO" - SECRETARY OF NATIONAL PROPERTY FRANCISCO JAVIER ALEJO), DEFENDED IT AS "PRO-LATIN AMERICA, NOT ANTI-US", AND SHOWED INTEREST IN VIEWS OF US GROUP ON ISSUE.

3. ON POPULATION, MOYA IMPRESSED GROUP WITH COMMAND OF SUBJECT ON BOTH WORLDWIDE AND MEXICAN CONDITIONS, AND STRESSED MEXICAN VIEW THAT PROBLEM OF TOO RAPID GROWTH HAD TO BE ATTACKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH COMPLEX OF OTHER SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES.

4. ON MEXICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM(DESCRIBED BY ACYPL QUESTIONER AS "ESSENTIALLY ONE PARTY") MOYA MADE LONG REFUTATION, IN PROCESS OF WHICH HE CITED EXAMPLES OF ONE PARTY SYSTEM OPERATING IN AREAS OF US AND DESCRIBED OPPOSITION PARTY OF NATIONAL ACTION (PAN) AS COALITION OF MOST REACTIONARY, NON-NATIONALISTIC FORCES IN MEXICO. PAN WAS REPOSITORY OF PROTEST AGAINST PROGRESSIVE GOM PROGRAMS, NOT A PARTY WITH POSITIVE PROGRAMS OF ITS OWN.

5. ON PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION, MOYA DESCRIBED PROCESS OF ELIMINATION FROM ORIGINAL FIELD OF 5-8 UNANNOUNCED BUT WELL-KNOWN CANDIDACIES AS A KIND OF NATURAL SELECTION IN WHICH, AS MERITS OF ASPIRANTS WERE BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY DISCUSSED, CANDIDATES PROGRESSIVELY FELL BY THE WAYSIDE, UNTIL PUBLIC IMAGE OF ONE STOOD OUT FROM ALL THE REST. ACTIVE CAMPAIGNING BY THE CANDIDATE HE SAID WAS TABOO, SINCE THIS WOULD CONFLICT WITH OBLIGATION OF HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICE.

6. ON US-MEXICAN RELATIONS, MOYA CITED SOLUTION OF CHAMIZAL AND SALINITY PROBLEMS, FORD VISIT TO MEXICO ("HIS FIRST ABROAD"), AND ECHEVERRIA (JUNE 1972) ADDRESS TO JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS AS EVIDENCE OF PRESENTLY EXISTING GOOD RELATIONS. "NINETY-NINE PERCENT" OF MEXICAN PUBLIC WANTED GOOD RELATIONS, ONLY QUESTION WAS HOW, ON WHAT BASIS. IN MEXICAN VIEW, GOOD RELATIONS POSSIBLE ONLY ON BASIS OF MUTUAL RESPECT, REJECTION OF HEGEMONIES.

7. MOYA EXPRESSED INTEREST IN BILATERAL CONTACT BETWEEN YOUNG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POLITICAL LEADERS, INQUIRED ABOUT ACYPL; WAS TOLD PROGRAM WITH MEXICO WAS ACYPL'S FIRST IN LATIN AMERICA.

8. COMMENT: US GROUP, MOSTLY LEADERS IN 30'S WITH 5-10 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN STATE AND NATIONAL POLITICS, WERE UNIFORMLY AND FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH MOYA. COMMENTS INCLUDED "HE'S TOUGH AS NAILS," "SEEMS TO KNOW WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT," "A REALLY IMPRESSIVE GUY," "OPEN-MINDED," AND "NOT AFRAID TO MIX

IT UP A LITTLE."

9. MEXICAN YOUTH HOSTS EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT LENGTH OF TIME GIVEN TO US GROUP (TO BEST OF EMBASSY KNOWLEDGE MOYA DID NOT RECEIVE SOVIET GROUP HERE RECENTLY) AND AT CANDOR OF HIS REMARKS, WHICH CONTRASTED GREATLY WITH TOP PRI LEADERS, FOR EXAMPLE.

10. EMBOFFS, IN THEIR FIRST DIRECT CONTACT WITH MOYA, GENERALLY SHARED ABOVE VIEWS, ALTHOUGH MOYA'S OPINION OF PAN SEEMED EXTREME (EVEN EXCELSIOR HAS REFERRED TO PAN AS "LOYAL OPPOSITION").

11. BEFORE MEETING TOOK PLACE, NEW SECRETARY GENERAL OF POPULAR SECTOR OF PRI, DAVID GUTIERREZ RUIZ, WAS OBSERVED ENTERING MOYA'S OFFICE AND OVERHEARD TO SAY TO PRI SECRETARY OF ORGANIZATION THAT HE WOULD SUGGEST PERSONS FOR VARIOUS OFFICES (AN INTERESTING DIRECT CONFIRMATION OF MOYA'S ROLE IN DOMESTIC POLITICAL MATTERS).

12. ALTHOUGH MEXICAN HOST WAS PRI YOUTH (MNJR), PRI SECRETARY OF ORGANIZATION FIDEL HERRERA BELTRAN (EX MNJR PRESIDENT) OBVIOUSLY WAS OFFICIAL WITH ENOUGH CLOUT TO ARRANGE MEETING. ALTHOUGH HERRERA PREVIOUSLY HAD SHOWN CLEAR PREFERENCE FOR MOYA, FACT MEETING TOOK PLACE AND ATTENTION MOYA GAVE HERRERA SHOWED FEELING RECIPROCATED.

13. AIRGRAM FOLLOWS.
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